

THE GRANGE NEWSLETTER

Issue 54

Editor: Connie Masters

November, 1993

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Well now that the Election is over and we can all forget about watching the "Town Halls" on television, we can't forget about our own "**TOWN HALL FORUM**" coming up in January. We should put on our thinking caps and come up with ideas to bring to the Forum on how to set a "standard of interpretation" without losing any of our individual interpretation. This is to be a place to share what we say and do and learn from others who may say and do things differently. It is important for old and new volunteers alike. Mark the date on your calendars and come prepared for a rousing evening of debate and delicious dins: JANUARY 10 AT 5:30.

Thank you for watering the urn at the front door, which is growing like Topsy. Keep up the good work.

For our Christmas Musicale - A Harmony of Harps, to be held FRIDAY DECEMBER 10 AT 7:30, we will need a number of costumed volunteers, both for greeting and helping with the intermission repast. Please sign up - help make our evening a great success or buy tickets for yourself, your family and friends and enjoy the festive evening.

Other days to mark on your calendar - Training Supper with Carl Benn on MONDAY NOVEMBER 22, AT 5.00 - A super speaker you won't want to miss.

MONDAY DECEMBER 6 - Christmas decorations are put up in the house, "by who? - by you". It really is a lot of fun, so if you have never been part of this event before come out this year. "Many hands make light work".

A little early but this is the last newsletter before the Holiday Season. May your Christmas or Hanukkah be merry and may your time with family and friends be memorable. The very best for the year to come.

Your Chair, Elizabeth

PROTOCOL AND PROCEDURE

A new column in your newsletter, which will appear each issue to remind us of **P. & P.**

- Be fair to your Day Captain. Sign up for the month and if and when you cannot attend, call your Day Captain or Peggy. It is so much easier for you to make one telephone call than for the Day Captain to make numerous calls to see how many volunteers she will have in each day.

- Identification Badges must be worn at all times, when in the AGO and the Grange. The only exception is when you are in costume. (This includes training events and social events and will also help us to become better acquainted with new volunteers and remember forgotten names).

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THE GRANGE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE 1993 - 1994

* Chairman	Elizabeth Chish-Graham
Costumes	Jean Gray
Education	Florence Watts
* Finance	Dorothy Brown
* Flowers	Joan Watson
Grange Housekeeping	Virginia Smith
* Kettledrum	Marcia Hawken
Library	Mary Ash
Program	Pleasance Crawford
* Publications	Marguerite Larkin
Research	Avril Stringer
* Slide Library	Barbara Thamer
Special Events	Elaine Freedman
* Staffing	Barbara Paterson
Volunteer Training	Helvi Hunter
* Day Captains	Edna Rigby
Members at Large	Ann O'Brian Emmy Lind
Publicity	Connie Masters

* change from last year's committee

NEWS OF GRANGERS

Wedding Bells!!

Warmest wishes for her future happiness are extended to Heather Kalil (Wednesday) who was married to Bob Whiklo in September.

We hate to see you go -

Goodbye to Jean Crack (Friday) and Pearl Birch (Tuesday) who have given so much of their time to Grange activities. Our best wishes go with them for a happy and healthy retirement.

On leave of absence -

Audrey Walker (Tuesday) off to Holland for 3 years. She will be living near Amsterdam and hopes that anyone from The Grange visiting Holland will drop in for a visit.

Sick List

We are sorry to report that the following Grangers are out of action at present:

Anne Mills (Slide Librarian)
Helen Howes (Wednesday)
Evelyn Clark (Tuesday)
Priscilla Morley (Monday Housekeeping)
Joan Watson (Flower Chairman)

Get better soon, ladies! We miss you.

New Faces in The Grange

Wednesday

Eleanor Greig
Laura Shintani

Wednesday 4-6 pm.

Norma Hattin

Wednesday Evening

Elaine Maloney

Friday

Victoria Hadfield
Katharine Wray

Saturday

Susan Wakefield

Sunday

Anita Ramkissun
Kathleen Hickey
Michelle Abrams
Branka Stojanovik

We wish these new volunteers a long and happy association with The Grange.

A FEW NOTES OF APPRECIATION

To - Kay Kirker, assisted by Pat Marsh, who have created some particularly attractive flower arrangements in the house during the summer and fall. Both are on Joan Watson's flower committee

- Laura Shintani, who has agreed to be The Grange "Wardrobe Mistress" thus giving Jean Gray some much needed back-up with costume control and maintenance. Costume records are being up-dated, so please cooperate with Jean and Laura if they have inquiries about your costume.
- Anna Patrick (Friday) who has agreed to become "Grange Provisioner", keeping a watchful eye on the pantry and larder, doing an inventory of the food supplies and providing Peggy Eades with a regular list of what has to be ordered. Please let Anna know when you notice we are running low on anything used in the kitchen or bakeroom.
- Isobel Gill (Gallery Gifts) who gave us a delightful surprise gift of seven beautiful linen tablecloths she no longer needed. Many, many thanks, Isobel.

The following item appeared in the OHS BULLETIN July-August, 1993.

COME BACK OFTEN

The many friends and colleagues of Ruth Keene were saddened to learn of her imminent move to Victoria, British Columbia during the summer. Ruth has become a provincial personality through her work at Fort York for the Toronto Historical Board, at The Grange, for the Art Gallery of Ontario, and as a volunteer for The Ontario Historical Society. Ruth was presented with an Honourary Life Membership in the Society by our President, Kenneth McLaughlin, at the Volunteer Reception in June. Many, many thanks Ruth for your support and dedication to heritage in this province, and do visit us often!

A FOOTNOTE TO THE WILLIAM MORRIS EXHIBITION

One afternoon during the William Morris Exhibition, while Barbara Cole was on library duty, she was visited by a gentleman who seemed genuinely interested in the room. She was inspired to give a spirited account of Morris wallpaper designs and fabric designs and fireplace tiles designed by Moyr Smith for the Minton Company. As he was leaving, her visitor mentioned casually that he was Peter Cormack, Deputy Keeper of the William Morris Gallery in London! Barbara has been wondering ever since just what she said, and if her facts were right. Not to worry, Barbara. We're sure you carried on in the true Grange tradition of imparting accurate information with charm and panache.

VISITORS WITH CONNECTIONS

We enjoy all our visitors, but there is a particular thrill when a real, live Boulton comes to call. On two occasions in October a Boulton once again crossed the threshold of The Grange. The first was John D'Arcy Boulton of Calgary. He was given a copy of our Grange booklet and has been promised a copy of the Boulton family tree. In return he has promised to send us copies of all the material he has relating to the Bouldtons.

A few days later along came a charming young man called (what else?) D'Arcy Boulton. He was visiting Toronto from Gabriola Island, B.C., and his father had told him to make sure that he saw the home of his ancestors. He stayed the entire afternoon, buying a set of the postcards and a copy of "The Privileged Few". In a note to Peggy Eades requesting a few other pieces of information, the present day D'Arcy wrote, "What a wonderful building and restoration! I thoroughly enjoyed the few hours I had to spend there, and hope to become better acquainted with my past through "The Grange" and "The Privileged Few".

The Boulton family is alive and well - all over the country!

Harriette's family, the Dixons, are still visiting The Grange too. On October 6, Barbara Cole, (Wednesday) had the pleasure of meeting some present day Dixons. One had memories of wearing Harriette's veil at her own wedding some years ago. Some of you may remember the two visits to The Grange by Prue Iremonger, Harriette's great, great niece, a few years ago. As reported in The Grange Newsletter, Prue told how Harriette's veil had been preserved by the Dixon family, and was brought out for every Dixon bride. Barbara's Dixon visitor echoed a comment very similar to one made by Miss Iremonger, "The family could never understand why Aunt Hattie ever married Goldwin Smith!"


STAIR WINDOW

Avril Stringer, our Grange researcher, has been investigating the staircase window. Here is what she has found out:

It has proved impossible to establish exactly when the stair window in The Grange was installed. The best guess is during the 1840's. This is the same time frame we put on other alterations to the house.

An entry in Sanford Fleming's diaries for July 2, 1851 read
"Rec'd from W.H. Boulton £10 for making a perspective
view of Grange staircase".

This would indicate the changes were made before that time but how much before, we do not know.



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Art Gallery of Ontario

Dr. Corey Keeble of the ROM agreed with this 1840's guess and said The Grange window had 'stylistic similarities' to a window in St. Mark's church Niagara-on-the-Lake. You will see these 'similarities' in comparing The Grange window with photographs of St. Mark's.

The oak leaf border appears in both windows also the colours are exactly the same. St. Mark's window was installed when the transept was added in 1843-4. It is said to have been made in England of Belgian glass, and is one of the oldest stained glass windows in Canada.

A few terms for describing The Grange window

The border depicts oak leaves (an old British symbol)

The etched design is a Fleur-de-lis which does not necessarily indicate sympathy with France or French Canada

The 'bolt' and the 'tun' we all know. 'Bolt' is an old word for arrow and the 'tun' is a large barrel.

"The 'twisted rope' under the tun is called a 'torse' or crest wreath. It should be wrapped around a Knight's helm and is thought to have been copied by Crusaders from Arab headdress.

The bolts in the 2 quaterings are correctly called 'bird bolts' and the horns in the chevron quarterings are called 'stringed bugles'.

JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE - OR A FEW MORE WORDS ON OUR BICENTENNIAL

ONTARIO IN ENGLAND

How many Grangers are aware that there is a corner of England that is forever Ontario? This is Wolford Chapel and the land on which it stands in a rural corner of Devon. It was built by John Graves Simcoe and it is where he and Elizabeth Simcoe and five of their children are buried. Back in 1966, the late John Robarts, then premier of Ontario, accepted the deed of the chapel's site from Sir Geoffrey Harmsworth, the British newspaper magnate and owner of the property. Then, unfortunately, the chapel was neglected until, in 1989, the Ontario Heritage Foundation took it in hand and did a thorough restoration.

Wolford was the name of the Simcoe family home, and the chapel is a few miles from the charming old Devon city of Exeter. In its magnificent medieval cathedral on the east wall of the nave is a memorial to John Graves Simcoe. This summer, Ruth Vanderlip (Grange Library) celebrated Toronto's 200th birthday with a pilgrimage to Wolford Chapel, and she found it very interesting and recommends it to anyone interested in Toronto history and the Simcoes.

STAMP MARKS TORONTO'S BICENTENNIAL

In honour of Toronto's 200th birthday, Canada Post has produced a special stamp featuring a colourful rendering of the Toronto skyline from Ontario Place, designed by Toronto artist Vincent McIndoe. It was officially unveiled during a special presentation at Toronto's First Post Office on Adelaide Street, in the presence of Col. John Graves Simcoe and Mrs. Simcoe (a.k.a. Simcoe descendants Timothy Vowler and his sister Laurie).

First day covers featuring a reproduction of Elizabeth Simcoe's watercolour of Toronto Harbour can be purchased at the First Toronto Post Office or at any branch of the Post Office with a philatelic counter.

EVERYBODY LOVES THE GRANGE

A tour by The Friends of the National Gallery in Ottawa on Wednesday, October 27, resulted in the following telephone call to Elizabeth Chish-Graham from Jo Lander (AGO Volunteer Committee) who escorted the group on their gallery visit:

"Regarding the tour by the ladies from the National Gallery last Wednesday, everything was wonderful, the house looked wonderful and your girls are absolutely marvellous. You really have a lot to be proud of over there and I want you to know that I for one really appreciate what you did for us".

This tour was in response to letters sent out by the AGO to sister organizations to tour our Gallery. The National Gallery ladies had asked that The Grange be included in their tour.

A Note from the Library

Are we all remembering that The Grange Library is "off limits" to casual visitors to the house and that the barrier should be at the door?

The Grange Library is a non-circulating professional library first, and historical room second.

Mary Ash

A REMINDER

When the house is closed and The Grange sign is moved into the entry way, please make sure that it faces out to the Atrium so that our hours of opening and closing are visible at all times.

